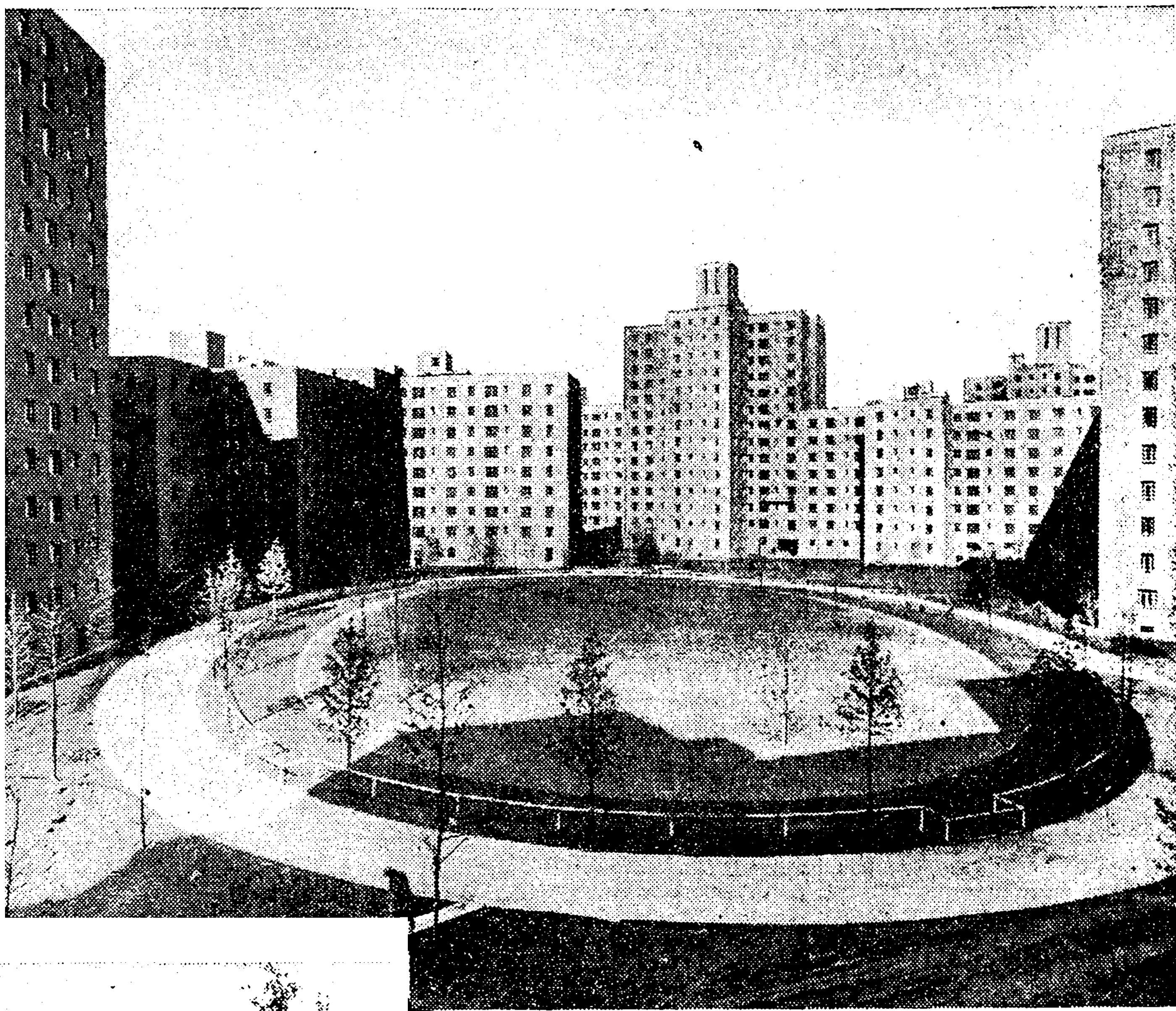


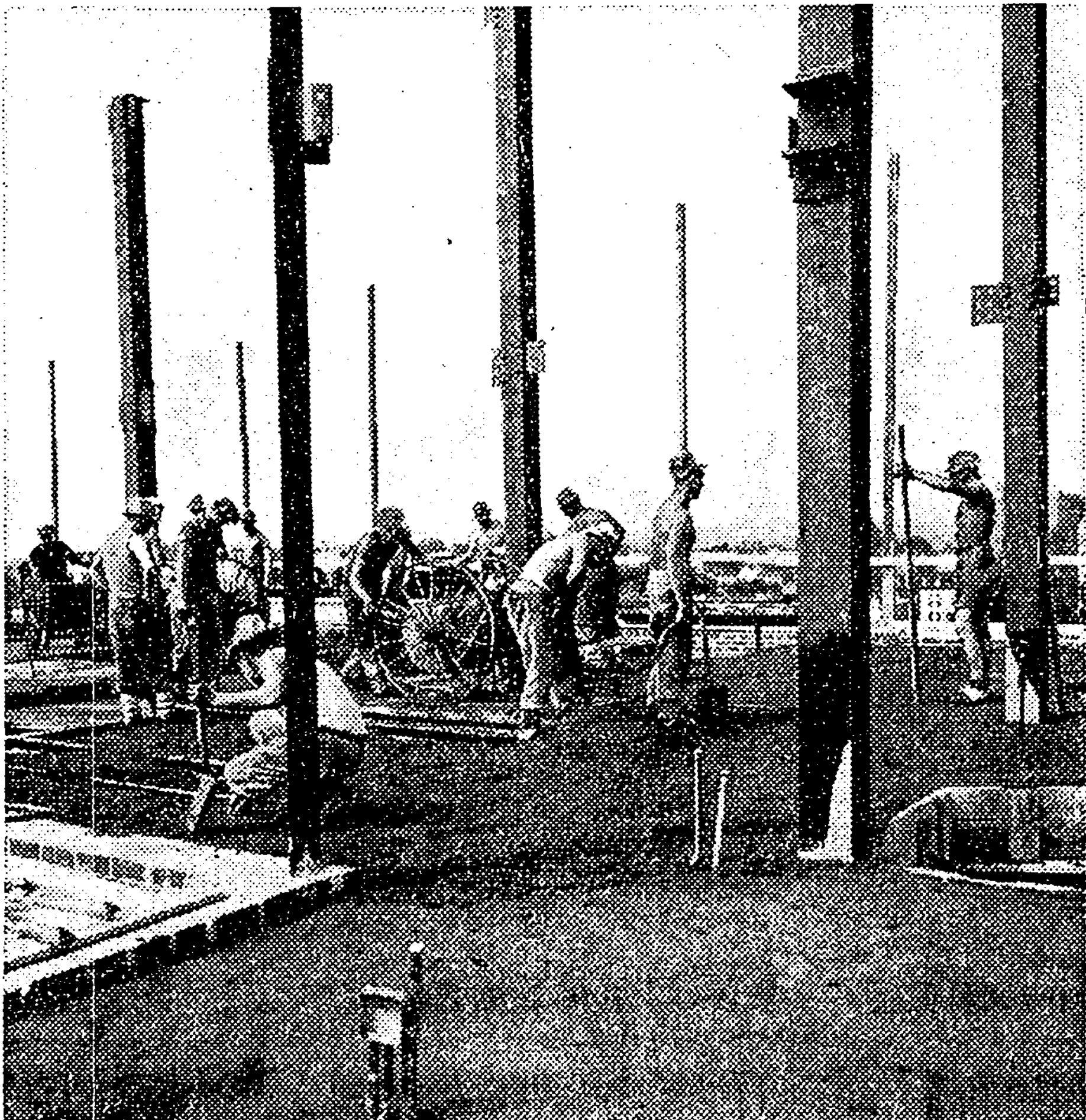
Vast Private Housing Project for 12,200 Families Under Construction on 129-Acre Landscaped Site in the Bronx



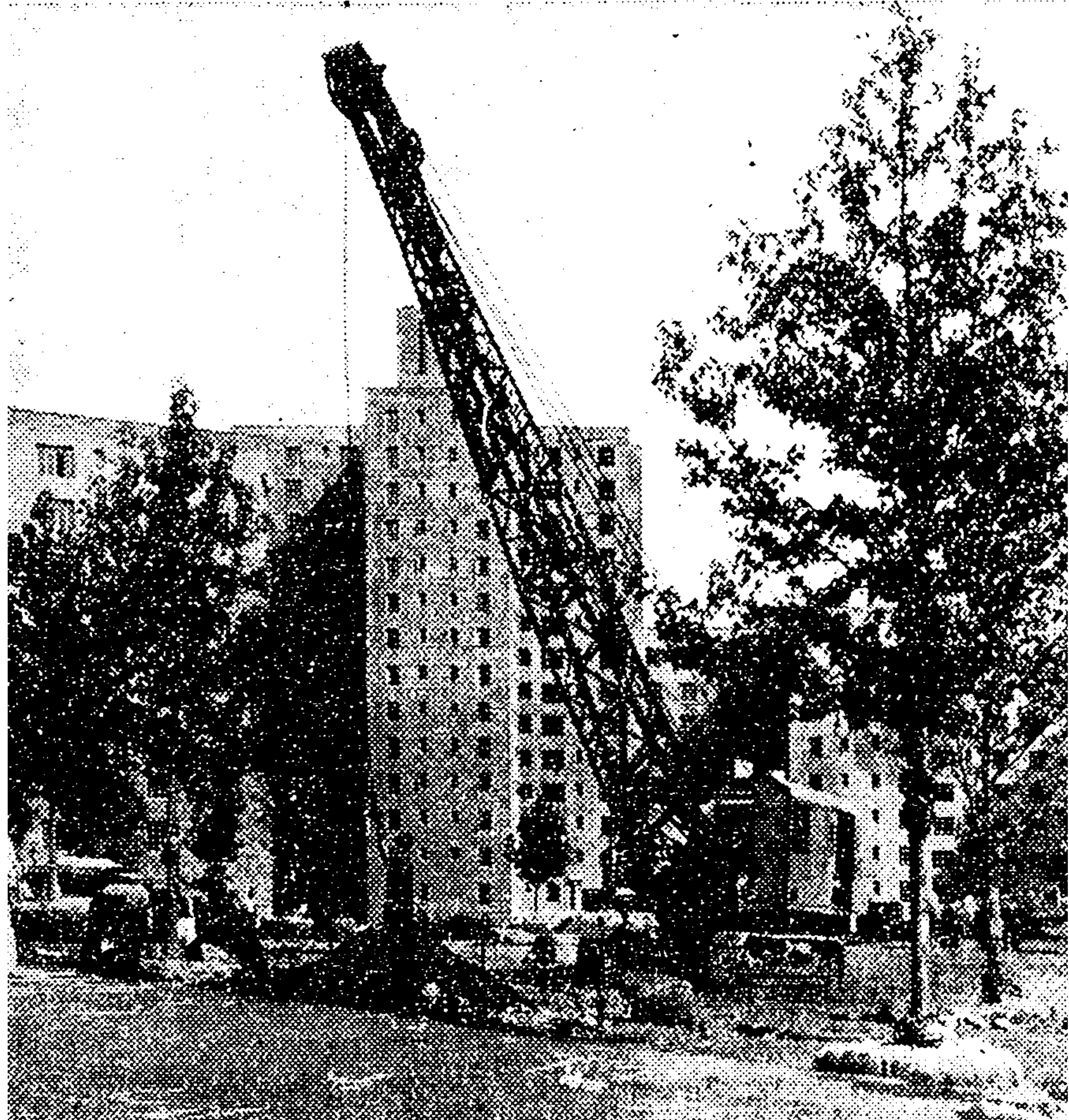
Air view of Parkchester, Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's residential center on old Catholic Protectory site, as it appears today. First group of buildings, in foreground, will open on March 1, 1940. Richmond H. Shreve is head of the board of design. Fairchild Aerial Surveys



One of the four-acre landscaped inner park spaces, which will provide tree-lined driveways, playgrounds and other recreational facilities for tenants in the buildings surrounding it.



Almost as rapidly as the steel columns are set in place, a fast-drying concrete is being poured for the floors of each unit, helping to make possible the rapid progress of the building work.



Hundreds of full-grown trees, such as those shown above, are being lifted into place by large cranes and planted along the driveways and playground spaces throughout the 129-acre site.

'CITY WITHIN CITY'  
FAST TAKING FORM

First of 12,200 Apartments in  
Parkchester to Be Opened  
In March

SITE COVERS 129.5 ACRES

Thousands of Workmen Busy  
on Metropolitan Life's  
Project in Bronx

By LEE E. COOPER

The nation's largest new apartment community—the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's project on the site of the old Catholic Protectory and adjoining land in the Bronx—is taking form rapidly.

On land where only a matter of months ago there were but a few outmoded brick buildings scattered haphazardly about, a vast and impressive transformation has taken place.

The paths where students strolled leisurely and the halls where they studied are now only a memory. All about the property now brisk crews of workmen are gathered, and over more than half of the site tall, modern multi-family structures already either have been enclosed or are rising rapidly to become a part of an integrated residential colony, a veritable "city within a city," which eventually will house more than 40,000 persons.

A survey of the progress of the work last week showed that eighteen of the fifty-one building groups already are completed so far as exterior construction is concerned, and are now receiving the finishing touches of painters, carpenters, electricians and other skilled mechanics, who begin their jobs where the steel workers and the concrete men leave off.

**All Foundations Are Laid**

The steel work has been completed on another group of seventeen building units and the foundations already have been laid for all the other units in the community of fifty-one imposing structures.

Work has proceeded without serious interruption now for a year and to such good effect that one group of the buildings will be ready by March 1, 1940, for occupancy by several thousand families.

The area of the \$50,000,000 project comprises the equivalent of about thirty-nine city blocks, but it will not be cluttered up as are some blocks by unbroken rows of buildings.

Instead, the vast plot has been divided into four big quadrants, each of which will have its own stores, playgrounds, parking fields and garages.

**Much Space for Recreation**

The buildings, ranging in height from seven to twelve stories, will cover only 27.4 per cent of the land, or 35.5 acres. The landscaped and recreational areas will cover 66.6 acres, or more than half of the ground area. The streets and walkways will take up 27.4 acres.

The section designated as the "South Quadrant" and a few additional buildings on the rim of this quadrant will be ready first. The group of structures at this point includes not only about a dozen large apartment buildings but also a theatre and the main shopping center. There also will be shaded walks and malls, play-

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# 'CITY WITHIN CITY' FAST TAKING FORM

## Continued From Page One

grounds, wading pools, roller skating paths, handball and softball courts, and garages.

In all there will be garage accommodations for more than 2,500 automobiles. In the apartment houses there will be 42,000 rooms. The suites of two to five rooms each will range in price from \$32 to \$69 monthly, including gas and electricity.

The rentals thus are expected to attract families of moderate income. From the rentals as fixed by the Metropolitan all of the customary taxes levied against private property will be paid.

The modest rentals are made possible, the sponsors explain, by the economies effected through purchases and construction on a "wholesale" scale. A large concrete

plant pours out a type of semi-dry, quick-hardening product which the big trucks carry quickly to workmen who spread it almost before the steelworkers have finished setting the beams on the floor above. Other operations are carried out on a correspondingly efficient and broad scale.

Full-grown trees by the hundreds are set in place while the broad streets and central malls or open circles are being laid out. Thus the first tenants may be able to enjoy landscaping which might otherwise take years to be achieved.

The Parkchester site is bounded by Castle Hill Avenue, White Plains Road, East Tremont Avenue and McGraw Avenue. Close by the section to be opened first is the 177th Street station of the Pelham Bay subway line.

The Metropolitan's board of design which planned the new community is headed by Richmond H. Shreve. Other members are Gilmore D. Clarke, Irwin Clavan, Robert W. Dowling, Andrew J. Eken, George Gove and Henry C. Meyer Jr., Starrett Brothers & Eken are the general contractors.

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